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AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

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Editorial.

PRODUCTION OF MILK IN WINTER.

The dairy farmer of the olden time seemed to care little about the profits of his dairy in the winter. As cold weather came on he ceased making cheese, and after making enough butter to supply the wants of his household, allowed his cows "to dry up." A farrow cow was kept just to furnish the family with milk for tea, coffee, and cooking purposes, but a large supply of the lacteal fluid in winter was considered a nuisance, winter butter being at a discount in the market, while the trouble of making it was two-fold that of the summer product. All this is now changed. Statistics prove that nearly half the milk of this country is now consumed as food. The demand in the city markets has so increased that it is brought into them from circles of two hundred miles radius. Every considerable village in the country also has its milkman, and in some of the larger villages half a dozen milk wagons are seen in the streets competing for this trade, few village folks keeping a cow now-a-days.

In addition to this demand for fresh milk in winter, for family use, many farmers are learning that they can make butter and rear calves just as well in winter as in summer. This may involve a little more labor in toddering and a little more expense in providing warm stables and fitting up dairy rooms, but the enhanced price of butter at this season pays for all this, and leaves a wide margin for profit. Calves dropped in the fall are certainly reared in the winter with no more trouble than in the summer, and when grass starts in the spring they are ready for grazing, and by the next winter are large and vigorous and can endure its rigor better that did "the yearlings" of our fathers. A new milch cow in the fall now commands a high price. The number of cows that "come in" at the beginning of winter has probably increased four-fold within the last twenty years.

Such being the case, the problem of milk production in winter is an interesting one, and as time and experience advance much light is thrown on its solution. A few suggestions may help the novice. In the first place milk can not be produced with profit in the winter unless the stables are warm. If half the food consumed goes to the supply of animal heat, as it did in the old wide-cracked, loose and under-pinned barns of the olden time, in which the cows often shivered and were covered with frost of a cold night, no wonder that the animals were poor as Job's turkeys in the spring, though they had given little milk during the winter. Comfort is the first essential to milk production, and there can be no comfort when Jack Frost is pinching at every pore. To secure warmth is not necessary to stable cows in basements. Indeed, these are better places for manure than for animals, for, though warmth is a good thing, it is not the only thing requisite for the comfort of beasts. The poor inmates of "Libby" did not complain so much of the cold as of the bad air. We do not mean to insinuate that basements cannot be so well lighted and ventilated as to make them fit abodes for both man and beast, but we affirm positively that this is seldom the case, and as a general rule we much prefer to live and let our animals live above the basement. By putting the stables on the sunny side of the barn, battening them on the outside and lining them tightly on the inside, filling the space between the studs with straw or saw-dust, frost can be effectually excluded, and, so far as warmth is concerned, the animals made perfectly comfortable.

To secure light and ventilation put in frequent small windows of rough-plate glass, hung on hinges, or made to slide, so that they can be opened fully of a warm, sunny day, or partially opened in moderate weather. Tubes should also run from the stables through the roof of the barn to carry off all foul air. The heat generated by the animals will cause the air to rise through these tubes, thus causing a constant change. The floor must be perfectly tight, as no animal, biped or quadruped can stand a constant draft of cold air directly on the stomach.

Cleanliness is a third requisite for the production of good milk. In the summer a grazing cow keeps herself neat and tidy. In winter the cow herd must do this for her, by having her stall so short and elevated that all her excrement will fall in the trough behind her, and be removed at least bi-daily. The stall must also be well bedded with straw or sawdust, or dry loam, or sifted coal ashes. The last two are excellent absorbents of vile odors, and add greatly to to the value of the manure. Notwithstanding all these precautions there will more or less dust and filth accumulate on a cow unless she is carded daily. When we learn to keep our stables and cows as those of Holland are kept, then will our flow of winter milk be as sweet and pure as that of the "faderland." The crowning requisite for the production of winter milk is nourishing, succulent food. Our fathers kept their cows in winter on dry hay almost exclusively, and this made from ripe and over-ripe grass. No wonder the cows gave little milk and came out "spring poor" in May. This was miserable economy any way, for it took the cows half the summer to get into good milking condition. Our modern practice of cutting grass early, and cutting the aftermath, enables us to furnish a food very similar to the feed of summer. The aftermath (rowen) is specially adapted to the production of milk, as it is almost as juicy and tender as fresh grass. If the first crop only is fed to milch cows, they should have a daily ration of roots or apples, and these are healthy and serve as a variety, no matter what the feed may be. No man or inferior animal likes to be served with the same ration three times a day and 365 1-4 days in a year. Turkey and plum pudding served in this fashion would pall the appetite even of a gormandizer. We are looking for great help in the production of winter milk from ensilage. This comes nearer to summer grazing than does rowen, and the slight fermentation which it undergoes makes it the more digestible and more easily assimilated. Whether it will enable us to dispense with roots, as its ardent advocates claim, remains to be proved by further trial.

With suitable food we include an abundance of good water. No producer of winter milk should think of doing without running water in his yard, to which his cows can have easy access at least twice a day. To compel them to tramp half a mile, or twenty rods even, to some brook or spring of a cold day will make a large discount on their milk product, both in its quantity and quality. Bricks can be made without straw or other fuel as they can be hardened by the sun's heat, but good milk cannot be made without good feed, including good water.

DESTROYING THE FORESTS.

In a recently published book entitled "Summer-Land Sketches, or Rambles in the Backwoods of Mexico and Central America," a book of close and clear observation as well as adventure, the author, Dr. Felix L. Oswald, describes a ramble extending through several years in the mountains of Mexico, which he was originally led to take for sanitary reasons chiefly. He has very decided views, it should be explained, of the evils of civilization, and confesses to having reaped a world of enjoyment in the great region to which the destructive tendencies of civilized life have not yet penetrated. In particular does he treat of the great evil of forest devastation which afflicts all older countries more heavily than perhaps any other.

The author says, "We want proficiency in the art of subjugating Nature, but in the New World the same ambition has led to a very dear-bought victory which the countries of the East have paid with the loss of their manhood; their wild woodlands have been turned into deserts, and their wild freemen into slaves; the curse of the blighted land has recoiled upon its devastators. In our eagerness to wrest the sceptre from our Mother-Earth, we have invaded her domain with fire and sword, and instead of increasing the interest of heritage we have devoured the principal; the brilliant progress of the vain god of earth is tracked by a lengthening shadow—the day-star of our empire is approaching the western horizon."

This is certainly a serious statement to make, and so far as there is truth in it we are bound to give it our earnest attention. Where shall it end? inquires our author, referring to this devastating habit of the race. "Mold, sandy loam, and sand—is Liebig's degeneration scale of treeless countries. The American soil may pass through the same phases, and what then? Will the sunset in the west be followed by a new eastern sunrise? Shall Asia, the mother of religions, give birth to an earth-regenerating Messiah, whose gospel shall teach us to recognize the physical laws of God? * * * The westward spread of this land-blight will drive the famished millions of the Old World upon our remaining woodlands; but the resources of the last oasis will probably be husbanded with Scotch canniness and Prussian systematism, and before we share the fate of the Eastern nations we may see the dawn of bureaucratic millenium, when all our fields shall be fenced in with brick walls, all rivers with irrigation-dikes, and all functions of our domestic life with official laws and by-laws."

But before that time shall come the author says that his trust in the eternal mercy of Providence lets him expect another general deluge; but the recuperative agencies of unaided Nature seem powerless against the greatest of all earthly ills. He remarks that "the coast lands of the Mediterranean were the pleasure gardens of the Juventus Mundi, the Elysian Fields whose inhabitants celebrated life as a festival. And now? Spain, Southern Italy, Greece, and Persia have been wasted to a shadow of their former self; ghouls and afrits haunt the burial-places of the north African empires, and no invocation can break the death-slumber of Asia Minor. Acorns perish in the soil which once nourished the oaks of Bashan; outraged nature refused to be reconciled. With the glory of the Orbis Romanus the spring-time of our earth has departed; and what America mistakes for the prime of a new year is but the lingering mildness of an Indian summer."

We are solemnly warned that the career whose swiftness is our national boast has led us upon a road which has never been far pursued with impunity; that the rapidity of the destruction of our tree and game production is far more unparalleled than the growth of our cities; and that the misery of the Old World has not taught us to avoid its causes, while the history of its effects will not fail to repeat itself. The author of this book says that a few remnants of the old forests will probably survive on the frozen shores of Lake Winnipeg and the inaccessible heights of the Rocky Mountains, but the great east and East-American sylvania is already doomed; and if we persist in our present course, that our last timber States, Maine, Michigan, and North Carolina, will be as bald as northern Italy in fifty years from now, and our last game will soon retreat to the festering swamps of southern Florida.

☞ Calves in winter need good feed, better than yearlings. They should have the best of early cut hay, or, what is better, the second crop. The addition of a few roots every day will make quite a difference in their growth during the winter. Two calves well fed, will be worth more next spring than three half fed.

☞ The farmer who is above his business and entrusts it to others to manage, in due season will have no business to look after.

WINTER EVENINGS.

When the busy harvest is over the intelligent farmer of New England, who understands how to take the advantage of his surroundings, looks forward with pleasure to the long winter evenings. If he is blessed with a family of sons and daughters, who can gather with him around the same fireside, this, to him and his family, is the most profitable as well as the happiest season of the year; but to the man who does not know how to take advantage of his surroundings, and makes no effort to instruct, interest, and make his family happy, thus encouraging them to seek enjoyments outside and beyond the restraining influence of a good home, to such a man the long winter evenings are seasons of misery, and not only creates in him a feeling of discontent but also tend to sever the close connection which should ever continue between members of the same family. As the character of the man depends very largely on how he spent his leisure hours in boyhood and early manhood, if one can know how the boy spends his winter evenings, he can judge very nearly what will be the character of the full grown man.

Parents too often forget that the moulding of the character of their children is principal in their hands; they also too often forget that childhood is full of life and joy, and naturally seeks for amusement, and that any effort to crush out these natural desires in children only tends to drive them beyond the reach of the restraining hand, where they can indulge, without restraint, and directed only by those who look only to the joys of the moment. There are but few places where the mind of the boy can be more easily turned in the right direction than on the farm; for here all thr ough the growing season he is brought in direct contact with the wonderful powers of nature, and a very little instruction will teach him to, in a measure, realize her beauty, purity, and perfection, and at the same time create in him a desire to better understand her teachings. When once the boy becomes interested in, and really loves to gaze on the beauty of nature the mind is lifted up to that position where it begins to realize that right action is the groundwork of human happiness, and when the long winter evenings come he will be glad to spend a portion of them in reading books, that explain in detail, the laws relating to animal and vegetable life; but to make the evenings pass pleasantly as well as profitably requires the united efforts of both parents. All proper means should be used to intermingle with instruction various innocent amusements, to keep the evenings from becoming tiresome; reading from interesting and instructive books should be followed by conversation upon the subject read. A good microscope should always be at hand to assist the eye, in investigating the wonderful productions of nature, and especially the beauty and finish of the flowers of pot plants which should be found on every hand. No home is complete without at least a half dozen flowering pot plants; they form a central attraction which draws together all of the members of the household; and aside from their attractions and beauty, they offer lessons of instruction relating to plant growth, that will do much to prepare the boys so they will be better prepared to work successfully among the plants of the field.

If farmers would take more pains to make home attractive there would be less desire on the part of the boys to leave the farm to enter some other field of industry. There are but few if any occupations that offer such opportunities for home instruction and home amusement as that of a farmer; his evenings are comparatively free from business cares; he can spend them at his own fireside, surrounded by the members of his own household, or he can exchange visits with his intelligent neighbors, and to enlarge the sphere of his usefulness he should not forget to attend the weekly meetings of the Farmers' Club, there to exchange views on subjects relating to the various operations of the farm, and to gather up ideas to assist him in the instruction of his children at home. But the farmer, while visiting his neighbors, or attending meetings of the Farmers' Club must not forget his children at home; he should not overlook the fact that they are naturally social beings, enjoying in the highest degree the company of those of their own age, and that if he does not take the pains to select their associates they will associate themselves with the first that offer, without stopping to select. Some parents forgetting their own youthful days think their children need no associates outside of their homes, and so debar them of the privilege of giving or attending parties; but children, so treated, soon feel their homes to be prison houses, and so seek the first opportunity to break forth and mingle with the first that offer companionship, who too often prove to be but the lowest dregs of society. Many a noble boy has been wrecked in life because his parents have neglected to provide him with instruction, amusements, and young companions, during the long winter evenings. The character of boys who are provided with instructive home amusement, and permitted to mingle with young associates selected by their parents, is so much above that of boys whose homes are destitute of instructive amusements, and who have to choose their associates in the streets, that at first thought it seems impossible that any intelligent parent should neglect so important a duty; but if we look about us we shall find too many homes so devoid of sunshine that the boys who eat and sleep in them prefer to spend their leisure hours in the streets, even on a cold winter evening.

It is not possible that parents make their homes unattractive intentionally; it must be because they fail to realize its condition as seen by the children; and perhaps have become so accustomed to shed all of their smiles abroad, and their frowns at home, that it has become a second nature to them, so that they wonder why everything goes wrong the moment they step into the house.

Every farmer who finds that his winter evenings are not so full of sunshine for his children as they should be, should carefully search himself and see if any shadows come of his casting, and if so to cast them where they will not overshadow his home.

The winter evenings afford to the farmer a good opportunity to review the labors of the past season, note the successes and the failures; also to look forward to another season, lay out his plans for each field, and decide what will be the best method of treating each crop; in doing this he should always consult his boys, and thus interest them in the future operations of the farm; and he should not fail to give his boys an opportunity to plan for themselves the crops that can be grown to the best advantage, on land assigned for their especial use.

May the coming winter evenings be spent to the best advantage by every New England farmer's family.

WORCESTER COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Annual Report of the Secretary.

This Report contains a very full account of the doings of the Society during the past year, interpersed with opinions and suggestions, given in Secretary Edward Winslow Lincoln's peculiar happy style.

By it we learn that the Society is in a highly prosperous condition; that it held, during the winter of 1879-80, weekly meetings for discussions on important subjects, which were attended by large numbers; that the holding of weekly exhibtions has proved to be a success, and has become a fixed policy of the society. A very humorous chapter on "Development of Insect Life" is given. The "Floral Department" is no less humorous and witty. It is evident that the committee, composed of all males, had a very hard time of it, and that the female contributors were so united, that it called out the suggestion that in future more unanimous decisions would be obtained by having only females on the committee.

The chapter on small fruits contains many important facts and suggestions relating to the extent of the business, and the quality of different varieties.

In regard to growing pears, while the Report gives some valuable information relating to the quality of varieties, it contains some passages that may mislead those who wish to grow first quality pears and do not fully understand the requirements necessary to do so. The report says: "Boreas seldom breathes in zephyrs, but who shall say that there is not health in the blast and that cool and bracing, it does not benefit the tree, rendering it sturdier and to some extent possibly ridding it of insects?

If the Secretary intends by this to convey the idea that exposed positions are the best, then he takes issue with some of the most successful cultivators in this country. Experience and observation have both taught us that *shelter* is important, if we desire to grow pears of the *best* quality; if we desire to grow only such pears as did our grandfathers, namely the iron, or black pear of Worcester, the orange, and the small seedling button pear, then it might be better to plant orchards where the wind would have full sweep. It would save the trouble of thinning the iron pear. The orange pear had better be blown off before it is fully ripe, and so had the button pears; but to set an orchard of Bartlett, Seckle, Duchess or Lawrence pear trees where Boreas is to sweep with a power sufficient to clean the tregs of all insects, is to take a position either far in *advance* or *behind* the present enlightened age.

It is evident that the Secretary is perfectly content to stand where our fathers stood. The Report says, "Is it not the truth—and the who'e truth,—that a thrifty tree, set in a hole sufficiently capacious, properly set at that, amply manured for food, and well mulched for drink, will do for us what it did for our fathers? Return a larger yield of fine fruit than we can consume at home, or find a convenient market for abroad?"

Is it not a fact that the market is never overstocked with articles of superior quality? It is for this reason that it pays better to grow pears of twice the usual size, even though too land has to be thoroughly pulverized, well underdrained, and sheltered by hedges or board fences.

The Report closes with a lengthy eulogy on the death of D. Waldo Lincoln, who was a valuable, active member of the Society for many years.

THE "HAYES" WHITE GRAPE.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Our new White Grape, "Hayes," which was exhibited before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in September last, and awarded a first class certificate of merit, is now in course of propagation. This grape is a pure native, fine in bunch and berry, of excellent quality, and extremely hardy. This last feature is particularly noticeable, the leaves hanging to the vine long after those of all other varieties have dropped. The "Hayes" can be recommended as a white grape especially suitable for the northern and eastern States and Canada.

The dissemination of this variety can not be accomplished for some years to come, and in the mean time all persons interested in grape culture are invited to make a thorough investigation of the merits which are claimed for it.

A descriptive circular with cut, &c., will be sent to your address at some future date. Hoping that you may sanction this attempt to place before the public a white grape, *possessing quality*, that can be profitably cultivated, I remain very respectfully,

JOHN B. MOORE.

Concord, Mass., Dec., 1880.

SCOURS IN SHEEP.

[National Live Stock Journal.]

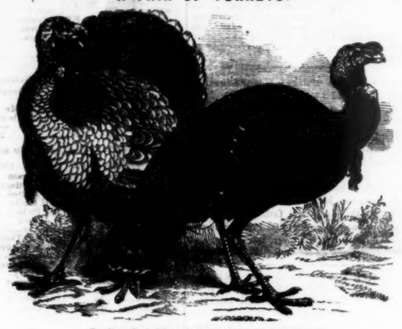
Give two or three ounces of castor oil, with two or three drachms of laudanum; one-third to one-half of this is a dose for lambs. Thereafter give, morning and evening, so long as necessary, half an ounce of compound chalk powder, two drachms of powdered gentian root, three ounces of peppermint water, and two ounces of starch emulsion, mixed together. One-third to one-half of this is a dose for lambs. In less severe cases, the white of an egg, beaten up with three ounces of water, may be given several times daily. With a view of prevention, avoid undue exposure to cold and wet. Provide comfortable shelter. Change the diet. Prevent access to icy water; also avoid impure or stagnant water, and keep salt constantly placed where the animals can partake of it at will.

VALUE OF LEAVES AND WOODS MOLD.

Decayed leaves and mold from woods are of considerable fertilizing value. They may best be used by making litter of them to absorb the liquids of the stables and yards. There is a large quantity of acids (chiefly tannic and gallic) in leaves, and the mixing of these with manure tends to neutralize the acids and increase their usefulness. As they are very absorbent, being able to hold 130 per cent of their weight of water, they may serve a useful purpose as litter besides being increased in effective value. If this cannot now be done, the leaves, etc., should be spread on the ploughed surface and mixed with the soil by harrowing. To plough them in would not be so well as to keep them near the surface where they would be benefitted by exposure to the atmosphere. They are found very useful as garden mulch. —*Ex.*

☞ A bulky fodder is the natural food of ruminants.

A PAIR OF TURKEYS.



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"THE SYSTEM OF PRESERVING GREEN FOOD IN SILOS."

[From a Lecture at the meeting of the Mass. State Board, Dec. 2, 1880.]

BY PROF. C. A. GOESSMANN.

[Specially reported for the Ploughman.]

The question of how to preserve green food economically, said Prof. Goessmann, was second only in importance to the question how to raise it most profitably. The raising of fodder crops was becoming year by year more essential, especially in those sections where young stock was largely raised. The silo system of preserving green food, although it had been successfully tried in Europe, was comparatively new in this country. The value of ensilage depended on the construction of the silo and the manner in which the green food was placed in it. The silo should be made perfectly air tight during the process of fermentation.

The speaker presented a series of carefully conducted experiments to show the relative value of dry food and ensilage, the result of which demonstrated the greater value of dry food, inasmuch as some of the nutritive qualities of plants were inevitably lost during the process of fermentation. Well dried hay or fodder was just as digestible as green food, but hay that had been lost none of its nutritious properties than was generally supposed. He thought the silo system, therefore, would be valuable in preserving the hay crop in rainy seasons. He thought working cattle and cows lost in vigor, when fed on cheap food, and he would not recommend feeding such animals on dry food or ensilage exclusively, but thought that description of food would do very well for young stock. The principal value of the silo system, under ordinary circumstances, he thought, was that it enabled the farmer to increase his fodder by making some otherwise indigestible materials digestible. He regarded the subject as one of great importance, and worthy of careful study and experiment.

The lecture of Prof. Goessmann was a very able paper, and, when published in the Report of the Board, will form a valuable addition to agricultural literature.

Mr. Benjamin P. Ware, of Marblehead, said he understood that in France a process had been devised by which all fermentation was prevented. Prof. Goessmann stated that such was not the fact, that the only change which had been made was in the form of fermentation.

Dr. Faxon, of Quincy, made an interesting statement of an experiment made by him with a very simple silo, made of boards, banked with earth. He put into it a quantity of black grass, from the seashore, which his cattle would not touch in its natural condition, and kept it there five weeks, when he began to feed it to his cattle, and found it as sweet as honey, without any acid taste or smell, and the cows fed upon it kept up their usual flow of milk. He had also experimented with corn fodder in a similar silo, and been quite successful.

The Dairy.

A VALUABLE JERSEY COW.

The *Home and Farm*, Louisville, Kentucky, says: Attorney-General Hardin, of Frankfort, Ky., is the owner of one of the most extraordinary of living Jersey cows; and she is as beautiful as she is good. In a single day her yield of butter has been as much as two pounds ten ounces, and from the time of calving—May 22—up to this date, the yield has at no time been less than two pounds four ounces. Tested for four days in succession, at the last of June, the average yield of butter per day was two pounds eight ounces, or at the rate of seventeen and a half pounds per week. Shortly after calving she gave thirty-six pounds of milk per day; now the yield of milk is from twenty-eight to thirty-one pounds. This Jersey has not yet attained the full measure of her powers—at least this much is to be assumed—seeing that she is still no more than a heifer. She is a prize and it would take a big sum to buy her.

TO WHAT AGE WILL COWS BREED?

[National Live-Stock Journal.]

Prof. Fleming says, that cows have been known to breed after they were twenty years old; but the most remarkable case that we are now able to recall, is that of the Shorthorn cow Cherry by Waterloo (2816), bred by Mr. John Stephenson, of Wolviston, Eng. This cow was calved Dec. 20, 1821, dropped her first calf Jan. 16, 1825, and continued to breed regularly every year up to Feb. 1840, when she dropped her 16th calf, being then in her 19th year. Another very remarkable case was that of Red Rose by Windsor (698). This cow was calved in 1812, and produced 16 calves; the last birth being twin heifers, dropped when she was 16 years old. There are several instances on record of cows breeding up to the 15th, 16th and 17th year; but these are, of course, exceptional, the great majority of cows ceasing to breed before they are twelve years old.

CELERY FOR RHEUMATISM.

In celery there must be some special virtue, if we only knew what it is. Nothing is made in vain, and the powerful smell and extraordinary taste of celery are intimations from nature that it has some special mission. Mr. Ward, of Ferriston Towers, Ross, writes that rheumatism becomes impossible if celery is freely used as an article of diet. Unfortunately, he says cooked celery; for it is the article in its raw state to which we are all accustomed. "Cut the celery," he says, "into inch dice. Boil in water until soft. No water must be poured away unless drunk by the invalid. Then take new milk, slightly thicken with flour, and flavor with nutmeg; warm with the celery in the saucepan; serve with diamonds of toasted bread round the dish, and eat with potatoes." "Permit me to say," he adds, "that cold or damp never produces rheumatism, but simply develops it. The acid blood is the primary cause and the sustaining power of evil. While the blood is alkaline there can be no rheumatism and equally no gout." And Mr. Ward proceeds to say: "Let me fearlessly say that rheumatism is impossible on such diet, and yet our medical men allowed rheumatism to kill, in 1876, 3,840 human beings—every case as unnecessary as a dirty face."

Stock Department.

SKIM-MILK FOR CALVES.

[Prairie Farmer.]

In view of the transition gradually taking place whereby butter dairies are carried on the year round instead of during the summer months exclusively, the treatment of heifer calves dropped in the fall or early winter is a timely subject. Dairymen in every part of the country are paying more attention to raising their own dairy cows rather than pursue the poor policy of slaughtering all the calves and replenishing their dairies from droves of cows picked up here and there. The heifer calves from their best cows are now kept by numbers of dairymen, and a gradual improvement among their herds is the result.

The proper way to raise a calf in the dairy is by hand. The objection is sometimes made to it, that it is not nature's way. Neither is drawing the milk from the udder by hand, nature's way. Nature intended, it is true, that a calf should suck its dam, but if this argument is good for anything it goes further and proves too much, for nature also intended that the cow's milk should all be drawn by her offspring. There has been some progress from nature's methods in the management of cows with reference to their employment for the production of dairy products. In her original or natural state a cow gave enough milk to raise her calf and no more, and went dry in four or five months. But the improvement which man in the development of milk and butter qualities in various breeds has wrought a remarkable change. Some cows give sufficient milk to raise two and even three and four calves.

The practical question then is, can calves be raised on skim-milk and make good cows? It has been answered frequently in the experience of good dairymen who have done it, and are raising good cows in that way all the time. The calves are allowed to suck their dams a few times, and are then taken away and taught to drink from the pail. In the practice of some dairymen, the milk warm and fresh from the cow is fed to the calf for a week, and then it is mixed with skim-milk, the quantity of the latter being gradually increased until substituted entirely for the fresh milk. In raising by hand the calf can be kept in just the condition desired if proper care is observed. If the skim-milk is not rich enough, a little oil meal gives it the desired richness; and when sufficiently old to eat it, cut hay mixed with shorts will be relished by the young things. Thus simply fed they will thrive if otherwise properly taken care of, and not allowed to suffer from cold and stormy weather.

Mr. A. B. Allen, long a recognized authority on such matters, thinks that choice calves can be raised for dairy on skim-milk, and that feeding all new milk is wasting the cream on such as are to grow up for dairy cows, and further that such calves are all the better when reared on the quality of the milk which is the least fattening and gives the most muscle. Many a Shorthorn heifer, he says, is injured for the dairy by being over-fed as kept too fat from its birth up to three years old which is the usual time for it to drop its first calf. Mr. Allen is not singular in this opinion; it is shared by others of much experience. It is well to bear in mind that a calf raised for dairy purposes does not need to be made as fat as one intended for veal; at the same time a thrifty growing condition should be maintained.

SHORTHORNS AND HEREFORDS.

[Maine Farmer.]

The *Mark Lane Express* of August 2d, makes a concession as between Shorthorn and Hereford cattle which will hardly be relished by breeders of Shorthorns either in this country or elsewhere. An American breeder of Herefords claims that these cattle "are better graziers than are the Shorthorns, whether in England or America; that a Hereford steer will always sell for the most money to the feeder; and that he is always worth more money as a finished steer in the London market."

The *Express* concedes these claims. It says: "These are points on which we agree with him," and adds—"He goes on to say: 'If these premises be true, as the best grasier he will make a better weight on the same grass. If the same weight off grass will sell for more money to the feeder, it must follow that he is the best feeder. If, when fed, he will bring more money in London to the butcher, it must follow that he is of better quality and will cut to the better profit. These would, in this country, constitute the best beef steer. All this (continues the *Express*) is true enough, but it does not prove that the Hereford is as useful an animal as the Shorthorn. All of the conditions mentioned are those pertaining to grazing—conditions which exactly suit the Hereford. The question is whether the Hereford, which is acknowledged to be the better butchers' beast, could be put to the uses and bred under the conditions which belong to the Shorthorns. We think certainly not; except by altering the character of the breed, in which case all the gain would be likely to prove a loss."

If these concessions of the *Mark Lane Express* are to be taken as correct—or if it is admitted that the Hereford is the better butchers' beast, the question of relative value, so far as this country is concerned, is decided. Let it be given up that the Shorthorn is not equal to the Hereford as a grazier, and that the former will not make as good or better weight on the same grass, and further, that the same weight of grass in a Shorthorn will not sell for as much money to the feeder as the Hereford will, and when fed will not bring as much money as the latter, because the butcher cannot cut his carcass up to as much profit, then our Shorthorn breeders will do well to make a note of it; for it is as certain as death that the most profitable cattle will eventually take the lead, and usurp the great pastoral regions of the West, as well as rapidly come into favor with feeders everywhere. We presume, however, that Shorthorn breeders will take issue at once with our English contemporary, and vehemently claim, as they have always done, that Shorthorns are, in all respects, equal and superior to any other breed of cattle. Would it not be well to inaugurate tests looking to the settlement of these important questions?

☞ Corn stalks contain more potash than any other fodder fed to cows.

Correspondence.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman

THE GROWTH OF TREES.

BY ELIZUR WRIGHT.

Trees record their own history. The stump not only tells the age, but in what years the departed grew vigorously and in what it did little more than hold its own. I not long ago, in Ohio, measured the stump of a sugar maple, recently cut, and found it 30 inches in diameter. The tree had lived 125 years. In the first 63 years, while it stood in the dense forest, it had acquired but 9 inches in diameter. After the forest was cut away and it was left with only a few scattering companions, it soon assumed a superior rate of growth which it maintained till nearly the last, so as to add 21 inches of diameter in 62 years. The rings averaged about 17 hundredths of an inch in thickness, whereas in the first 63 years they had averaged but 7 hundredths.

In Sweden it is ascertained that a forest of mixed wood on medium soil grows about a cord of wood a year on an acre of land. If much more than a cord is removed from an acre in a year, the production is reduced. But to keep the production from diminishing it makes all the difference in the world what trees you take away, whether you take those which are beginning to decay, or those which are in the rapidest stage of growth. It is only by the best judgment in thinning out, that the capital of growth can be kept whole, after a forest has become well established.

If we take two trees of the same species, say an oak sapling, that is four inches in diameter, and 16 years old, and 20 feet high, and a tree that is 24 inches in diameter, 96 years old and 60 feet high, a little calculation will show us, supposing the thickness of the rings now equal, that the sapling is making 2.18 of a cubic foot of wood in a year, while the tree is making 3.924 cubic feet in a year. It will take between 32 and 33 such large trees on an acre to make a cord of wood in a year. And it will take about 590 of the saplings, or nearly 4 to the square rod. And it would take more than 70 to be cut to make a cord, so that in so young a forest a cord a year can not be taken away without trenching on the capital. It is not in fact till a forest is made, 100 years old, that it can yield so much as a cord an acre, without trenching on the capital of growth. But when it gets of that age, if the right care is taken, the average cord it yields is much more valuable than more fire wood. The larger and more perfect the sound tree, the more valuable per cubic foot.

The forest I have supposed, consisting of 32 two foot trees to the acre, would make only between 40 and 50 cords of wood to the acre, if all cut at once. But that would be a destruction of capital which it would take nearly 100 years to restore, a capital which if kept up by replacing every tree cut, will continue forever to yield a net profit of at least ten dollars per acre yearly.

A forest, not to be ruined, must be managed very much as death manages the human race. Trees must not be taken out faster than they spring up, nor all of our age or sect, only those that are ripe, sickly and in the way. By adopting the species to the soil, even the poorest soils will yield immense returns. The rocky hills of Massachusetts which will not grow very large oaks or walnuts, will cover themselves with enormous pines and hemlocks, if they have an opportunity. As evergreens do not, like other trees, perpetuate themselves by sprouts from the stumps, when a forest of them is slaughtered by the axe, their tender seedlings are prevented from replacing them by the sun, frost and cattle, while the hardier seedlings of the deciduous woods, such as birch, maple and ash, and the sprouts of such oaks and hickories as may have been mixed with the evergreens, have a better chance, and thus take the place of the resinous woods on a soil not so well adapted to them. With a little judicious care and forethought a wood of scrubby oak or hoop-pole hickory may be converted into a glorious pinery, yielding masts for navies. But as the individual man has, on the average, a life shorter than that of a tree, it requires the State, which does not die, to do this.

The Middlesex Fells, so called, is a tract of nearly 4,000 acres, within six or seven miles of Boston, of which more than 3,000 consist of rocky and blue gravel hills, once covered with lofty pines and hemlocks, nearly all of which have given place to oaks and hickories, living lives of semi-starvation, and devasted by frequent forest fires. There are about 140 proprietors, assessed, at an aggregate sum, between $200,000 and $300,000, and deriving an income from the fuel of a good deal less than one per cent. over the taxes. And this is taking annually more than is repl

with in the milk business any better than in most other kinds of business, as shown above.

Many efforts have been made to supplant the present system of milk contractors by inaugurating others in their place, and they have generally for some reason or other though capital has been put in requision failed. The milk business must be learned like every other, in order to be made successful; hence, capital, desire and purpose to introduce a better system than the present have failed, and will probably continue to fail unless it combine the essential elements of the present, and if it do, then what is gained by the change? Is there any probability of getting any more honest men, or men who shall furnish consumers better milk than they are now served with? We trow not. That Boston is served with as good milk, ay, better than the average cities of the United States, has often been affirmed by persons who had taken special pains to inform them elves relative to the milk supply of Boston. That milk is adulterated and will continue to be adulterated by dishonest peddlers, who doubts? That this is any more incident to the present contractors' system than any other like unto it for selling milk made remote from the city for its supply, is more than doubted. Therefore the conclusion reached leads to the utterance of the old and very true proverb, "Let well enough alone."

L. W.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, DEC. 18, 1880.

The ascertained population of Oregon is under 175,000.

Gen. O. O. Howard will be assigned to the command at West Point.

Gen. Hazen will unquestionably be confirmed as chief signal officer.

Gen. Longstreet has presented his credentials to the Sultan of Turkey as United States Minister.

The London Times attacks the government for not taking energetic measures in relation to Ireland.

The New York Central railroad is so crowded with freights that blockades are of frequent occurrence.

Only one woman, Miss Peabody, was returned to the Boston school committee at the election on Tuesday.

The Boston banks have been able steadily to improve their condition, notwithstanding the closeness of the money market.

During the past seven years, it appears that the mines of the United States have yielded about $280,000,000 of gold.

Brigadier-General Marcy, inspector-general of the United States army, has made application to be placed on the retired list.

The Wood refunding bill, a three per cent plan, is before the House of Representatives, and discussion has fairly opened on the subject.

Rev. F. G. Dodds and M. Reveiland spoke in Trinity chapel, in this city, last Tuesday evening, on the spread of Portestantism in France.

The proposal of the French ministers to dispose by sale of a certain number of what is known as the "crown jewels" will be considered by the Chamber of Deputies.

Wade Hampton protests that, in his not very recent correspondence with Secretary Sherman, he intended nothing like either giving or inviting a challenge to mortal combat.

"A steady and very cold term" is due now, according to Prof. Vennor, to continue, with but brief intermission, up to the 20th inst, sleighing is to be good for the rest of the month.

The design of the Yorktown monument, a model of which has been received by the Secretary of War, is said to be a finer military memorial than at present exists anywhere in the country.

Cabinet and Council meetings are the order of the day in England. The sentiment in them is said to be very positive for sustaining the policy of Secretary Forster, known as the policy of coercion.

The Senate has passed a bill placing Gen. Fitz John Porter on the retired list of the army with the rank of Colonel, with no compensation or allowances during the time that has elapsed from his dismissal from the service.

There has been a notable quickening, in the last three years, of the interest felt in the study of the ancient classics at Harvard, showing itself principally in the largely increasing numbers who compete for honors in those languages.

Gen. J. H. Wilson has written a long letter to the Springfield Republican in reply to criticisms from various sources respecting the accidents which have occurred on the New York and New England Railroad, of which Gen. Wilson is Vice President.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

The condition of Ireland is every day growing worse, and revolution is threatened as a certainty. Mr. Forster, Secretary for Ireland, has demanded that two more regiments be sent there without delay. A dispatch to the London Times from Dublin says it would not be correct to state that anarchy prevails in Ireland, for there is a very distinct and potent government which is rapidly superseding the Imperial government, and is getting the ascendency. It rules with an iron hand, and with a promptitude that enforces instant obedience. Its code is clear, its executive resolute, its machinery complete, and its action uniform. There is a government *de facoti*, and a government *de jure*. The former is wielding power which is felt and feared, and the latter exhibiting pomp, but little reality of power.

One government is described as a terror to evil doers, while the other is not. The law of the Land League is said to be rapidly becoming the law of the land. The law of the State is costly, and to a large extent suspended, while the new law is administered effectively as well as cheaply and conveniently. In numerous places League courts are springing up, and the people are instructed to have their disputes decided by such courts, and to have no more business with the session. It is a surprise to the local magistrates in the west of Ireland that no cases are brought before them except by the police. For some time past the people have been advised to take this course, and now they are beginning to act upon it. As a general thing, the penalties inflicted by such courts are more regarded than those imposed under the statutes.

The League government likewise shows itself most effective in the laying and collecting of taxes. It is said that no rate assigned by law is paid half so promptly as the tax the League imposes. The new government of the League requires that licenses to sell at fairs and in the market be procured of it, and their production is enforced by summary process. The only element wanted to actually constitute the new government is a standing army, but materials for one are being fitted for use when called upon. The knowledge of this fact creates deeper alarm, because, with an armed and disaffected population around them, the loyal subjects of the Queen in many places believe the damage which lurks beneath it is more formidable than visible terror. And the continued military preparations of the British Government tend to confirm this fear.

The London Times itself thinks that it seems too plain that the Irish Government has already allowed the reign of lawlessness to assume dimensions it should never have reached. Remedial legislation which might be proposed and carried under better circumstances, cannot be presented as a bribe to purchase peace from highwaymen. To check lawlessness now is difficult; but what is this to the difficulty that must be experienced in checking it hereafter, if its development cannot now be stopped. The futility of the policy so far pursued has been demonstrated by bitter experience, and a new departure may be recognized as inevitable. It will be necessary to pass an act to disarm the population, and the time that would be consumed in passing the act would probably be fatal to the efficiency of the measure.

MEETING OF THE STATE GRANGE.

The State Grange of Massachusetts, of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, will assemble in the eighth annual session in Franklin Hall, Greenfield, on Tuesday the 21st inst., at 11 o'clock A. M. The Boston and Albany and the Fitchburg Railroads will furnish free return tickets to those paying full fare for the purpose of attending. The Connecticut River Railroad will also extend similar favors to those who attend. The sessions will continue for three days. In addition to the address of welcome, on the first day, by Master Warner of the Greenfield Grange, there will be an annual address by Master Draper, the address of A. K. Warner, Esq., Lecturer, the Report of the Executive Committee by Benjamin P. Ware, the reports from subordinate granges, and sundry other exercises in due order. On the second day the session will be an open one, to which all farmers and friends of the Order are cordially invited. Music will occupy the time between the discussions, which, in the morning will be opened by James S. Grinnell, Esq., on the question—"What is the cause of the decline of the agricultural industry in Massachusetts?" The afternoon discussion will be opened by President Stockbridge of the State Agricultural College, on the resolution that "the Industrial Interests of the State demand the establishment of an agricultural Experiment Station. The evening discussion will be opened by Benjamin P. Ware, Esq., on the resolution, that "the State of Massachusetts offers better opportunities for young men to engage in Agriculture than any of the Western States." The session of Thursday will be a resumption of the regular business session. It is expected that the meeting will be one of the pleasantest and most profitable of any yet held by the State Grange.

THE GENERAL PROSPERITY.

For many years, the affairs of this country were never in such a state of prosperity as now. The growth of this general prosperity is truly marvelous. What is more, it is having a visible effect upon every other country on the face of the earth. As a contemporary truly observes, "From Mexico to Hindostan, and from Russia to Egypt, news is constantly received of the influence which we are acquiring upon the different commercial and financial markets. Cabinets are overthrown upon monetary questions which have been created by our prosperity, and America has now taken a foremost place in the list of nations with high credits." It is a flattering statement to accept, but it can hardly be said to be very exaggerated. It is entirely true that our country has taken a stride of late which surprises foreign nations and places their calculations in the shade.

In consequence of being obliged to settle with us for our exported provisions in gold, the Bank of England is compelled to put up the rate of interest in order, if possible, to check the outflow of specie. Our influence is directly felt in France, too, so that in the French Chamber of Deputies the prosperous condition of this country has been the subject of a heated debate, and not a few men of distinction and ability have freely suggested that France should take the lead in negotiating with the United States and Germany on the subject of restoring a bimetallic currency. They begin to understand across the water, that we are in a fair way to refund our bonds at three per cent, and it gives them pause when they consider that they will have no more of our high rate bonds, bought of us at a large discount, to pay us off for our breadstuffs and provisions.

THE WHEAT CROP IN FRANCE.

According to the returns of the French Government in relation to the wheat crop for 1880, the crop of this year is called a fair average. In quality it is pronounced superior. Yet inasmuch as the crop of 1879 was a very bad one, and that of 1878 an indifferent one, it is evident that France will be compelled to import more than she did last year, and it is expected that prices will rule strong. A tabulated statement is made by the Government of the total yield of wheat in France during the past ten years, which shows for the year 1878 a yield of 98.2 million hectolitres, for 1879 a yield of 78.8 million hectolitres, and for 1880 a yield of 101 million hectolitres. It appears in regard to prices that they are not so much affected by a single crop as by its relations to the crop preceding it.

For these reasons, the prospects of the dealer in American breadstuffs in France are good. It is stated that a price of 28 francs for a hundred kilogrammes of French wheat leave the producer no profit at all, while American wheat now sells at Havre at about that rate, or a little less. The rye crop in France is at least one-third better than last year, taking weight and quantity into account. Indian corn has become as important an article of food in France as rye, and the American article is without a successful competitor. What France imports in the way of breadstuffs she will ordinarily pay for in goods, and not in specie. But this may yet come to be regarded as a distinction without a difference. We certainly want French gold just at present more than French goods. We can take silver as pay, and we can take such light goods as France is always ready to part with, but we need gold more.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The resignation of Secretary Thompson from the Navy Department to take the Presidency of the American Branch of the De Lesseps Panama Canal scheme has excited much and unfavorable comment, and is regarded as an unpreceded act for one holding a high public office in this country to do. It is notorious that this Government is far from being friendly to the scheme, and it is to be inferred that the foreign projectors of it are anxious chiefly to have it appear abroad as if the United States had finally come into the arrangement and consented not only to waive its objections but to participate in the plan. This would readily be made probable in foreign eyes by a Cabinet minister withdrawing from office on purpose to assume a leading part in its direction.

There are public rumors that the President is astonished at what may be called this defection from his views and from the accepted American policy in the matter, and it is by no means improbable that such rumors are well founded. Until the scheme for cutting a canal across the Isthmus shall have been well considered in connection with not only the rights but the views of the United States, it is not prudent for foreign capitalists to embark their money in such an undertaking. There is no question whatever that this country will have something to say on the subject at the right time, and, as such things go, the only safe course for foreign capitalists to pursue is to find out what the views and purposes of the United States are at the start. It would be preposterous to suppose that we are to see this thing go on, and not manifest any interest in it.

STILL LIFE.

In the country now, it is peculiarly the term of Still Life. Nature is hybernating, locked up, blanketed, at rest. Her buds and buttons are all set, gummed over, and secure from harm until the suns of Spring wilt their encasements and set them at liberty again in balmier airs. And so it is, comparatively speaking, with people. In a sense, our country friends have gone into Winter quarters, too. They lead altogether different lives from their Summer lives. It is withdrawn, unseen, closer, and with a much more rapid play of the thoughts and affections. Much as the roughness and toughness of Winter is bemoaned by most persons, it is not to be overlooked that by thus being compelled to seek indoor pleasures we are drawn closer together socially and enjoy pleasures of a very different character from those which the Summer furnishes.

Life becomes strikingly still at this season, and it is in agreeable contrast to the out door and open-air life which is followed at the opposite part of the year. There is no roar of waterfalls nor babble of brooks. Just at present, there is less day than night. Slumber is invited by all surrounding conditions. It is a good season to gather knowledge and wisdom, by study and reflection; and they are the unhappy losers of the golden opportunity who do not follow the hints and impressions furnished by the time. Still life prevails that we may sit down in the heart and centre of it and address ourselves to duty which were passed by during the heats and discomforts of Summer. It is wise to note the hidden meaning which these changes have for us. They help us to understand better our character and our condition.

International Copyright.—Congress and the State Department are each considering a proposition for a copyright arrangement between the United States and foreign countries. That which the State Department has under consideration is the international copyright treaty suggested by Harper and Brothers. No name has yet been affixed to the other plan, by some unaccountable oversight. It is described, in its introductory clause, as "A bill which shall extend the privileges of copyright in the United States to foreign authors, composers and designers, while at the same time it will inflict as little injury as possible on the American indust ies affected thereby." A contemporary observes that this, when translated, means, "an act to prevent the importation of foreign books," and adds with emphasis that no such bill ought ever to become a law. And so it strikes us, and will strike any one who looks for the largest possible spread of intellectual enjoyment and culture. The leading provisions of this bill is, that, while foreign au hors may assign their rights to American publishers, yet that their books shall be "wholly manufactured" in this country. It will thus be seen that the English publisher is allowed no chance here at all. No foreign edition of a book, the copyright of which had been made over to an American publisher, could be brought into the country. Collectors are to "seize and hold for adjudication" all such books that arrive at the ports where they are officially placed. A very large number of the Americans are wealthy enough to prefer a costly foreign edition of a favorite book to a cheap American edition; but they are not to be allowed to enjoy this privilege. They are told by this proposed law that they must either buy such books as the American publisher places before them, or go without entirely.

A Notable Suit.—One of the remarkable suits of the time is that in which the widow of the late William C Ralston of San Francisco is plaintiff in equity, and William Sharon and another are defendants. Mr. Ralston was drowned in August, 1875, in the Bay of San Francisco. He was a partner with Mr. Sharon from the year 1867 up to the time of his death,—in various business enterprises of great magnitude and importance. The value of the property acquired by the partnership during the time of its existence is stated at thirty millions of dollars. Mrs. Ralston was sole legatee under her husband's will; she now alleges, however, that her husband, under a deed of trust to Mr. Sharon on the day he was drowned, had so proceeded with the settlement of the partnership affairs, and had induced her to sign such papers relating to it, as unlawfully to deprive her of a vast amount of property, real and personal, to which she is entitled. Her demand is for a full accounting and judgment for her husband's share of the firm assets.

The Sea Serpent.—This time the monster of the salty deep has been seen in the Indian Ocean. The captain of a ship sailing there saw him, and a lady on board drew a picture of him The story runs that at the time he was thus seen he was engaged in wrestling with a whale. The whale was so hard pushed by his more flexible antagonist that he jumped clear out of the sea, and he performed this feat "only a quarter of a mile away from the ship." Accuracy of detail in such matters is highly commendable. The whale repeated this extraordinary feat. Afterwards the serpent jumped thirty feet straight out of the water. It is of course described by the captain and the lady witness, who say it "appeared to be about the thickness of a junk's mast, and after standing about ten seconds in an erect position, it descended into the water, the upper end going first."

☞ "*Country Love and City Life, and Other Poems*," by Charles Henry St. John. A volume of attractive poems, one of the most interesting being the history of Corporal Day. Corporal Day was a country lad, who long before his majority sought fortune in city life. When the Rebellion broke out, he enlisted, gained great credit for valor, and at the close of the Rebellion returned home to his native village and married the young lady of his boyhood love. The story is well told and of great interest.

☞ *The I. X. L. (Spring) Tug Link* is for the protection of horses, harnesses, wagons, ploughs, mowers, reapers, etc., and saves the wear and tear of them all. By its use, horses are freed from sore shoulders, they can start and draw be vier loads, projection against accident is afforded at all times, and bulky animals are encouraged by the elasticity of the spring. The I. X. L. Tug Link is a most excellent thing, and is for sale by Whittemore Brother-, of this city.

Pneumonia and other acute and chronic diseases have their origin in nervous exhaustion. To prevent nervous exhaustion and debility, take Vitalized Phosphites. For sale by druggists or mail, $1.00. F. Crosby, 664 & 666 6th Ave., N Y.

Bernhardt in Boston.—This great French actress has, in the two weeks she has now been in Boston, fairly carried everything before her. Of her art in acting, nothing is said except that it is consummate. The critics are swept restlessly into the maelstrom of rapturous praise and admiration. Since Rachel, we have had no such dramatic phenomenon in this country. Our people were fully prepared, from what they already knew of her and her acting, to receive her with enthusiasm just as soon as she chose to earn it; but they had no real conception of the flashing and glittering, the powerful and surprising, bursts of artistic supremacy which she has revealed to them.

The Mormon Tythes.—It seems that the religious peculiarities of the Mormons do not prevent their being as adept as other people in avoiding their taxes. Their very bishops are now charged with dishonest practices in connection with the tithing system. The Mormon church requires of every member that he give to the use of the church, a tenth of all his products, if he is a farmer, and the same proportion of his products if he is in mercantile or professional business, or of his wages if he is an employe. Special officers are appointed to collect these tithes, and they perform their duty with the utmost rigor. The tithes yield not less than a million dollars yearly to the church, of which the head men, or bishops, make no accounting to the people. A more corrupt ring than Tweed's is said to exist at Salt Lake City.

DISEASES OF CATTLE.

DR. LYMAN'S REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13, 1880.—The President transmitted to the Senate to-day a communication from Commissioner Le Duc of the agricultural department, containing the information called for by the Senate resolut on of the 7th inst., relating to the contagious diseases of cattle in the United States. Commissioner Le Duc submits the report of Dr. Charles P. Lyman, who was sent to England last summer to continue his investigations into cattle diseases, more especially pleuro-pneumonia, as affecting the exportation of American cattle to England. Dr. Lyman, in that portion of his report which refers to the extent of the territory in the United States, in which cattle are affected with pleuro-pneumonia, defines it as extending at the time the investigations were made (in February, 1880,) from Fairfield County, Ct., over New York city and portions of New York state lying just north of it; Brooklyn and parts of Long Island lying just east of it; Jersey City and over a considerable part on the State of New Jersey, Philadelphia and some of the more southeasterly counties of Pennsylvania to Baltimore, and portions of the northeasterly counties of Maryland. After these contaminated districts were located reports were received from England stating that cattle affected with pleuro-pneumonia were frequently landed there. Investigations subsequently made on this side proved clearly that these diseased animals came directly from the West, from sections far removed from the contaminated districts. Dr. Lyman then went to Liverpool, where he discovered and traced back a number of cases of pleuro-pneumonia to this country, and, upon investigation, ascertained that the animals undoubtedly came from western States over lines of rail north of any locality known to be contaminated. This, he holds, means that the long dreaded cattle scourge established among our western herds; that Chicago, Buffalo, Albany, Boston and Portland are diseased centres, or else the disease is not pleuro pneumonia at all. The report closes by recommending Congress to enact such measures as to restrict the movement of cattle out from and within infected districts, so that in due time every case of the lung plague may be eradicated.

—The California vintage this year foots up a total of eleven and a half million gallons.

—A company of Frenchmen are successfully operating a porcelain factory in New Orleans, procuring their clay in Louisiana and Texas.

—The Russian police have, after all this time, fixed on the author of the dynamite explosion in the winter palace, and traced him to London, where he has been living for some time.

—In Lewiston, Me., there is a man who more than rivals Dr. Tanner in fasting experiences. He eats but one meal a day, just before going to bed, drinks nothing whatever, and has gained over thirty pounds on it.

A genuine Canada black fox, without a particle of light color on him, except a little gray on the tips of his ears and tail, was shot by Larry Elwin, on the mountain near Woodstock, N. Y. The skins of these animals bring from $30 to $50. It is the first genuine black fox that has been caught in Ulster County in many years.

☞ Nothing about the house adds so much to the comfort (or discomfort) of every inmate as the heating and cooking apparatus. A good stove or furnace is a "thing of beauty and a joy forever." The Magee Furnace Company have for more than a score of years held a leading position as manufacturers of stoves and ranges in this line, and the "Magee Standard" Ranges, Parlor Stoves and Furnaces have become household words throughout the length and breadth of our land.

FROM THE HUB.

There is perhaps no tonic offered to the people that possesses so much real intrinsic value as the Hop Bitters. That it eases pain in the eyes, when the stomach needs an appetizer, or the blood needs purifying, the cheapest and best remedy is Hop Bitters. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, don't wait until you are prostrated by a disease that may take months for you to recover in.—*Boston Globe.*

THE PLEASURES OF HOPE.

When the body is bowed with pain an intense longing for relief brings hope. This may brighten the suffering but it does not cure. At a time like this there is such a thing as to use Warner's Safe Kidney and Live Cure, bringing home health and happiness and the joys of a renewed life.

☞ Indispensable to the laundry and kitchen PYLE'S PEARLINE. Sold by grocers everywhere.

☞ The Syracuse Chilled Plow never fails on the stony farms of New England.

The Chicago *Times* says: Warner's Safe Remedy and Live Cure was highly endorsed by the best jurists, judges, physicians, surgeons, by men of literary and scholarly distinction, and by individuals in all the walks of life.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East Indian missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, and I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. SHERAR, 149 *Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.* n6-13t-eow

☞ Mark Twain's description of New England weather was accurate, as the sudden changes we have had the past year prove; but people can guard against sudden colds by using Dr. Topliff's Syrup of Tar.

☞ Chew Jackson's Best Sweet Navy Tobacco

☞ Canvassers make from $25 to $60 per week selling goods for E. G. Rinear & Co., 205 Barclay Street, New York. Send for Catalogue and terms. aug21 52

The Greatest Discovery of the Age.
For over thirty-four years
DR. J. BULL'S VEGETABLE LINIMENT
has been warranted to cure Croup, Colic, Spasms, Diarrhœa and Dysentery, takes internally, and Sore Throat, Pains in the Limbs, Chronic Rheumatism, Bad Sores, Piles, Bruises, Burns and Swellings, externally, and not a bottle has been returned, many families stating they would not be without it even if it was $10 a bottle. Sold by druggists at 25 and 50 cts. Depot, 42 Murray St., N. Y.
nov27-26t-eow

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, *Station D., New York City.* je12-13t

☞ If you want to buy flour and breadstuffs at wholesale prices in all quantities to suit, call on C. G. BROCKWAY & CO., 220 Friend St., Boston. dec18-1t

MARRIAGES.

In this city, Dec. 8th, by Rev. George M. Boynton, Edward H. Williams to Jessie L. Brown, both of this city.

In this city, Dec. 8th, by Rev. N. T. Whittaker, William C. Richardson of Somerville to Gertrude A. Tower of Boston.

In this city, Dec. 7th, by Rev. N. T. Whittaker, Thomas E. Harper of Boston to Catharine F. Henderson of Plymouth.

In this city, Dec. 10th, by Rev. O. T. Walker, Geo. E. Blank to Etta H. Fish, both of Boston.

In this city, Dec. 13th, at the First Church, by the Rev. Rufus Ellis, D. D., William D. Shoier to Edith F. Alden of Belfast, Me.

In this city, Dec. 8th, by Rev. A. J. Gordon, Louis C. Lanphear to Lizzie J. Neilson, both of this city.

In this city, Dec. 15th, by Rev. S. B. Crafts, assisted by Rev. T. W. Bishop, Mr. Grenville T. Bishop to Miss Caroline S., daughter of the late George W. Lamb.

In North Easton, at the residence of the bride's father, J. C. Howard to Alice J., only daughter of Capt. Byron Strout.

In Dorchester, Dec. 14th, by Rev. Henry King, Mr. William E. Parkinson to Miss Emily F. Blanchard.

In Providence, Dec. 12th, by Rev. Frederick A. Hinckley, assisted by Rev. Augustus Woodbury, Mr. Albert E. Rogers of Louisville, Ky., to Miss Annie B. Robinson of Nantucket.

DEATHS.

In this city, Robert Slade, 72 years.

In this city, Dec. 11th, Thomas C. Wales, 75 yrs.

In this city, Dec. 11th, Mary Wentworth, widow of the late Timothy Hall, formerly of Portsmouth, N. H., 74 years.

In this city, Dec. 10th, Daniel McDavitt, 67 years.

In Cambridge, Dec. 13th, Charles Cushman, 68 years 10 months.

In this city, Dec. 12th, Henry Taylor, 75 years.

In this city, Nov. 30th, suddenly, Sarah Eliza, beth, wife of N. H. Brigham, and daughter of the late Hon. Samuel Wood of Grafton, Mass.

In South Braintree, Dec. 14th, Sallie, widow of the late Capt. Isaac Dyer, 93 years 8 months.

In Topsham, Me., Dec. 12th, Adams T. Graves, 76 years.

In Woodstock, Conn., Dec. 10th, Ruth Witter, widow of the late Thomas May, 79 years 8 months.

In Charlestown, Dist. Dec. 14th, Mrs. Temperance A. Wellington, wife of Cyrus Wellington, 60 years 6 months.

In Brookline, Dec. 15th, Joseph D. Roberts, in his 73d year.

In Milton, Dec. 13th, Mary, wife of Thomas T. Wadsworth and daughter of the late Lemuel Bradlee of Roxbury, 81 years 2 months.

In Salem, Dec. 8th, Mrs. Elizabeth, widow of Mr. Thomas Webb, 93 years.

In Walpole, Dec. 11th, Nathaniel Bird, 75 years.

In Lyndeld Centre, Mass., Dec. 13th, Louis Mayer, 86 years 6 months 26 days.

In Medfield, Dec. 13th, Carrie E. Rhodes, 49 years 9 months.

In Providence, Dec. 13th, Job Angell, 83 years.

In West Boston, Me., Dec. 15th, William Butler, 85 years.

In Berwick, Me., Dec. 12th, Daniel Wentworth, 83 years 6 months.

In Leadville, Col., George Higgins, formerly of Andover, aged 47 years.

In East Saugus, Dec. 14th, Lavinia Plaville Barker, 62 years.

In the Whitton, Farm, Hingham, Dec. 10th, F. H. Stevens, 66 years 9 months.

In East Middleboro', Dec. 12th, Joanna Wood, widow of Isaac Atwood, 86 years.

In Dedham, Dec 12th, of pneumonia, Julia Ann Gay, widow of the late Elijah Hoye, 77 years 9 months 13 days.

In Cambridge, Dec. 11th, Estelle M., daughter of the late Amos B. Kelly, 25 years.

In Boston Highlands, Dec. 12th, Mrs. Sarah G., widow of the late John N. Turner.

In Dorchester, Dec. 12th, Rev. C. W. Sharp.

In Watertown, Dec. 12th, Annie M., wife of George F. Faxon, 34 years 10 months.

In West Newton, Dec. 9th, Mrs. Adaline Burnett.

In Hartford, Ct., Dec. 11th, Jason L. Wolcott, 63 years 6 months.

In Hingham, Dec. 10th, Maria Hersey, daughter of the late Capt. Stephen and Maria Lincoln Hersey 42 years.

Cattle Markets.

BRIGHTON AND WATERTOWN.

Reported expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman

FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 18.

Amount of Stock at market:—

	Beeves.	Sheep.	Calves	Fat Hogs.	Veals
This week..	3578	6,092		18,412	170
Last week..	4228	5,938		19,350	139
One yr ago.	3295	6,807		5,377	30

Horses.....170

Prices.

Beef—per 100 lbs. on total weight of hide, tallow and meat, extra, $6 75@7 25; first quality, $6 00@6 50; second quality, $5 00@5 50; third quality, $4 50@4 75; a few choice single pairs, $7 00@8 25; some of the poorest, bulls, &c., $3 75@4 00.

Working Oxen.—$100@160 ⅌ pair; @ handy steers, $50@75 or much according to their value for beef.

Cows and Young Calves.—Fair quality, $20@30; extra, $36@45; barrow and dry, $10@27.

Fancy Cows, $50@60.

Stores.—Thin young cattle for farmers—yearlings $7 00@12 00; two-year olds, $12@24; three-year olds, $19@28.

Sheep, Wool—Per lb, live, 4@4½c; extra 5@5½c. Sheep and Lambs ⅌ head, in lots, $3 50@6 75, @ Lambs 4½@5c ⅌ lb. Sheared Sheep— @ c. Spring Lambs @c ⅌ lb.

Fat Hogs.—Per lb 4@5cts, live weight; Shotes wholesale, @c; retail, @ c N Y Pigs, @ Northern Dressed Hogs, @c.

Veal Calves.—@8c ⅌ lb.

Hides—Brighton, 7@c ⅌ lb; country lots, 3@4c

Calf Skins.—11@12c.

Tallow.—Brighton, 7@8c lb; country lots, 3@4c

Pelts—$1 00@1 50 each; Country lots, $1 00@1 50; selected skins, $1 75.

Sheared Skins, each @ c; Lamb Skins, @ each.

CATTLE AND SHEEP FROM SEVERAL STATES.

Beeves.	Sheep.	Beeves.	Sheep
Maine.....722	3122	New York. 79	2000
N. Hampshire158	400	R Island....	....
Vermont.....404	1158	Western. 2208	1040
Massachusetts 56	113	Canada.... 1	1121
Connecticut. 48	....		
Total.....		3578	6092

Left over.....

CATTLE AND SHEEP BY RAILROAD.

Beeves.	Sheep.	Beeves.	Sheep.
Fitchburg.... 1192	3122	Eastern.	229
Lowell..... 260	1200	Boston&Me.	....
Boston& Alb. 1872	1080	On foot&boats	16
Total.....		3578	6092

Drovers & Droves.

Cattle.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Sheep
Maine.		H Ingerson.....	5
Libby-Brown...	46	B S Hastings ..	10
Libby-Jones....	30	H S Britton.....	10
Rockliff-Hasty	30	C H Dudley.....	2
B B-H B Rack.		R P Pollard.....	8
Hall.....	6	S Jewett.....	16
Eldredge Bros..	16	O Bixby.....	74
B F Simpson....	22	Sargent-Turner.	3
J Wellington...	10	**Massachusetts.**	
S F Wardwell ..	14	G W Jones.....	8
A Richardson..	16	W H Bardwell..	16
J W Witherby..	10	J S Henry.....	113
New Hampshire.		J D Hosmer	6
T J Drover.....	10	J Rice.....	9
M Pike.....	11	C Leavitt-Son ..	2
S F Rossiter ..	10	**Connecticut.**	
T J Wood	7	C Leavitt-Son ..	16
J C Marshall....	109	D Adams.....	16
J F Atherton...	18	N Holcomb.....	16
O Osborn.....	75	**New York.**	
Dow-Moulton...	17	G W Hollis.....	263
T B Sargent....	10	Gies Wears....	100
J O Fellows....	196	Weston-Moody..	20
Kilburn-Glendenning.....	82	D Fisher.....	16
Aldrich-Johnson	30	G Berry.....	300
Vermont.		O S Rodmon....	2
J Engram.....	21	E Smith.....	147
A A Pond.....	14	R J Hannon....	65
C C Martin....	15	B Hurlbert.....	109
A Williamson..	18	O S Hurlbert...	316
	202	D Trace.....	200
	99	**Western States.**	
	37	A N Monroe..	1556
	78	Hathaway & Jackson	784
	44	J McFlynn.....	89
	11	C Leavitt-Son..	99
	18	W Hollis.....	1080
	727	Fitch-Eames....	32
	30	J Stetson.....	20
	40	E Farrell.....	16
	31	**Canada.**	
		C Pevis.....	121
	93	J W Wright	115
	12	A Lamontt	101
	36	C H Peter	180
	12	H M Crohurst..	173
	15	D McCracken..	203
	14	F Fernando....	

WATERTOWN MARKET.

Union Market, Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1880.

This week's live stock market was famous for its nice praiseworthy cattle. Christmas cattle is what we call them, because they are slaughtered this week to have them ripe for next week's sale in the city. A few butchers have got to themselves quite a reputation for offering for sale especially nice beef for Christmas. Distributed through the various northern yards—as a pair or more of choice corn fed oxen, several pairs we have taken note of from New Hampshire, Vermont, and one lot from Greenfield, Mass. On these selections a special price was obtained, that probably paid well for the extra pains in feeding. We heard of 8½c D W, as the price that one drover obtained, or full 2c higher rates than our quotation last week. The better quality of the cattle was full an offset for the improved price, so that really the live stock market has not improved. We found nearly the whole head of Western cattle landed here, a part for butchers and the balance for exportation. We are bound to give England a good taste of American beef, and at such a price as to defy competition. Not many sales between 7 and 8c either way as to quality, or a little under for common grades.

HOW CATTLE WERE SOLD AT UNION MARKET.

G. W. Jones had at market 8 oxen of his feeding at Greenfield, Mass., sold to A. Heath at market price; the heaviest pair weighed 4000 lbs, the average weight 3600 lbs the pair. A Vermonter drove and had 20 head of nice heifers at 3½c; would average 750 lbs.

J. C. Marshall, who hardly ever mentions his sales, had 4 year old steers raised by Wm. Aldrich of Colebrook, N. H., the market weight, 3420 lbs, at 8c, 3 pair.

Dow & Moulton sold 2 oxen to dress 1100 lbs at 7c D W.

D. Robinson sold 2 oxen, 2810 lbs. at 4¢c live; 2 oxen, 3025 lbs, at $140; 2 oxen, 3000 lbs, at 4¢c.

M. G. Flanders sold 2 4-year old steers, fed by E. Johnson of Offord, N. H., 3300 lbs; 1 fat thoroughbred Durham cow, 1350 lbs, at 6¢c D W, fed by Moses Blanchard of Bradford, Vt.; J. O. S-nborn, 7 oxen at 7c D W.

M. Pike took in from the town farm of Hanover, N. H., 2 5 year old oxen, 3930 lbs, and 2 4 year old steers, 3400 lbs; No. 1 cattle to A. G. Heath.

C. H. Dudley sold 2 oxen of his own feeding at Windsor, Ct., fine cattle, home weight 4200 lbs, 4c higher than any other pair noticed; a lot of 12 head, including this pair, from 6@6½c D W.

Hathaway & Johnson sold 33 steers average 1400 lbs at $5.80; 60 cattle at 5¢c live, 1400 lbs. Some other lots at 5 @ 4¢c ⅌ lb.

BRIGHTON MARKET.

WESTERN CATTLE.
PRICES ⅌ lb ON THE LIVE WEIGHT.

Extra.....5½@6 | Light to fair.....4½@4¾
Good to prime.....5@5¼ | Common.....4@4¼
A few lots of premium steers cost.....6½@6¾

Brighton Market, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 14 and 15, 1880.

Against 3,262 head of cattle at market last week we figure 2,117 head, including Connecticut, Massachusetts and Maine, with 1,824 from the west. More Christmas cattle were sold. In one lot of Illinois cattle 11 head was all that could be put in one car. When yarded 2 head were taken from the car of mere common cattle, leaving in one yard 9 head with a gross weight of 19,140 lbs. These were A. N. Monroe's very best; one of them 2,560 lbs; the average weight 2,177 lbs, all 4 and 5 years old. One can imagine something of the cattle as the estimated shrinkage in slaughtering not over 50 per ct., bought by S. S. Learnard, of Faneuil Hall Market. We doubt not that the butcher had to pay two or three cents above the market for such animals. The general quality of cattle at market was much better than last week, and where it appeared that prices were higher it was on a better grade of cattle only, and the eastern cattle were mostly for work and store.

SALES AT BRIGHTON.

A. N. Monroe sold 22 steers, averaging 893 lbs, at $4.10 live; 28 steers, averaging 1,095 lbs, at 4¢c; 13 steers, averaging 1,050 lbs, at $4.70; 16 steers, averaging 1,159 lbs, at 5c; 38 cattle, averaging 1,290 lbs, at 5½c; 45 cattle, aver

READ AND RUN.

—The Canadian Parliament has at present on its hands for early disposal the arrangement made with the Canadian Pacific Railway syndicate. The capital stock of the rond is to be $25,000,000.

—The city of Worcester is in the market for a loan of half a million of dollars, bearing four per cent, interest.

—The gold coin that is now rapidly absorbed by the West seems to run into the ground.

—Three foreign steamers arrived in New York on Monday last, bringing about three and a quarter millions of gold.

—Nine-tenths of the business portion of Pensacola was destroyed by fire on Friday night last.

—In Gen. Grant's opinion, "De Leesups is trying to dig a ditch where it can never be dug." The Nicaraguan Canal Company is about to be incorporated by Congress.

—The House of Representatives has passed a resolution extending the sympathy of this country to suffering Ireland.

—The condition of P. T. Barnum is rapidly improving.

—Congressman Crapo has introduced in the House a resolution renouncing the Monroe doctrine, and declaring that the construction of an Isthmus interoceanic canal under the auspices of a foreign government is in violation of the spirit of that doctrine, and will not be sanctioned by the United States.

—The Yorktown centenary celebration is to last twenty-five days, and the outline of the programme is made public.

—In the recent experience of Memphis, great improvement has been shown in the efficiency of the precautions against fever.

—It is now rumored that a Socialist and Nihilist journal, to be called "The Anarchist," is to be started in Boston.

—The track of the New York and New England Railroad is now laid within a few miles of the Harlem Road. Trains will soon be run from Boston to Danbury.

—Stagnation prevails everywhere in the coffee market. There are large stocks on hand, with low prices.

—More than half a century ago, the German poet and philosopher Goethe said it would be strange if the United States let slip the opportunity to make a canal across the Isthmus for themselves.

—Judge Strong has tendered his resignation as Judge of the United States Supreme Court, and Judge Swayne will very soon do likewise.

—The weather in London now is said to be as pleasant as in September.

—It looks more and more like an open revolution in Ireland.

—The city of Cambridge will celebrate its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary on Tuesday, the 28th inst. Col. T. W. Higginson will deliver the oration.

—Secretary-of-War Ramsay has been appointed the successor of Secretary-of-the-Navy Thompson, and will discharge the duties of his office in addition to those of his own.

—Salvini, the Italian tragedian, made his American debut in New York on Monday evening last.

—Gen. Grant is at present in Washington.

—Gen. Crook has been summoned from Omaha to Washington, by the President, for a conference on the subject of the proposed commission to the Ponca Indians.

—Gen. Sherman is to spend the Christmas holidays in Boston with his daughter.

—The Cunard steamer Marathon, inward bound, broke her shaft and was towed into port by another steamer which had left Boston on the day preceding the accident.

—The British Government has concluded to abandon Candahar, though the troops will not be withdrawn at present.

—The Captain-General of Cuba has formally declared that peace has been established throughout the Island.

—The Monday Lecture in this city this week was delivered by President Robinson, of Brown University, on "The Two-fold Relation of Moral Law to Modern Science and to Popular Religion."

—The British Cabinet has been in a turmoil this week, over the question of applying coercive measures to Ireland.

—Our contemporary, the Journal, comes out in a bran-new dress of type, although it had used its old one not much over a month.

—The members of the Legislature of 1855 will have a reunion at Young's Hotel on the 22d inst.

—Even stuffed owls are offered by the shopkeepers, in their advertisements, for Christmas presents.

—Mr. Aaron Conant, a veteran stage driver, died in Topsfield, Mass., last Sunday, at the venerable age of ninety-three years.

—Barrels of eels are reported to have been brought to this city and exposed for sale, that were killed by the sewage flowing into the lower Mystic Pond. Large quantities of fish thus killed are lying on the shore.

—The Duke de Persigny's daughter, to whom the ex-Empress Eugenie was godmother, has been arrested for forging the signature of her grandmother to acceptances amounting to less than forty thousand dollars.

—Last week, 2676 pensioners were paid in person at the Boston agency, and 9927 were paid by mail. The total amount paid was about $375,000.

—Much excitement is reported among the Indians over the projected expedition into Oklahoma Territory. Two or three tribes are very hostile, and it is known that a large number of them are organized and armed prepared to resist the encroachments of white settlers.

—An important meeting of the Congressional Agricultural Committee was held on Wednesday, to consider a measure which is to be recommended to Congress for the suppression of pleuro-pneumonia and to prevent the spreading from one State to another.

—Cardinal Manning, of England, suffers no priest in his diocese to smoke, and he encourages all to take the pledge.

—The father of Eugene Hale, M. C., residing in Turner, Me., was struck by a lever on Saturday last, and his skull fractured.

—Mlle Bernhardt goes to Montreal from Boston, and will play in Burlington on her way up, and at Springfield on her return.

—Vennor prophesies difficult and disagreeable weather for the remainder of the year.

—Secretary Thompson has resigned from the Navy Department, and accepted the presidency of the American branch of the Panama Canal Company.

—Petitions in favor of the passage of the bankrupt law drafted by Judge Lowell, have been presented to Congress from the largest manufacturers of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

—Holiday gifts have broken out all over the advertising pages of the newspapers.

—The Treasury Department has decided that the clothes brought over by the actress Sarah Bernhardt are her "professional elements," and has refunded the duty she was compelled to pay in order to get them from the custom house.

—Five United States officers have been killed or wounded in Tennessee in a single week, their only offence being the attempt to execute the law against illicit distilling.

—The steamship building business was never so flourishing in England as it is to-day.

—An exchange protests rather feebly against receiving any more Christmas verses, as the stocken on hand is large and in great variety.

—The electoral count resolution is not likely to come up again in Congress until after the holidays.

—The largest subscriber to the De Lesseps canal is France, and the next largest Spain.

—Judge Strong called on the President on Tuesday, and tendered his resignation as Justice of the Supreme Court.

—A newspaper war is going on between Rochefort and Gambetta, and the latter has indirectly caused some letters of the former to be published which are very damaging.

—The rapid spread of typhoid fever is alarming the residents of Montreal.

—Chief Justice Gray of this State is urged to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court bench.

—At the Indiana camp meeting, it is said that a man and his wife became insane at the same moment. The story would sound better if this happened to be a good season for camp-meetings.

—The ladies of San Francisco have presented the Pope with a pair of embroidered white shoes, and his grateful reception of the gift has been duly acknowledged.

—The Pope is reported to be unwilling to pronounce against the land agitation in Ireland.

—On Wednesday morning, there were twenty-one foreign steamers at the wharves in this city.

—At the next session of the British parliament, a grave determined effort than ever is to be made to put a stop to the opium trade between India and China.

—Judge Clifford's mind is entirely gone, and his death is expected at any time.

—In Germany, including the free cities, about eighty-five per cent. of the whole population have incomes of less than two hundred dollars. The Germans are a prudent, thrifty people.

WOMAN'S WISDOM.

"She insists that it is more importance that her family shall be kept in full health, than that she should have all the fashionable dresses and styles of the times. She therefore sees to it that each member of her family is supplied with enough Hop Bitters, at the first appearance of any symptoms of ill health, to prevent a fit of sickness with its attendant expense, care and anxiety. All women should exercise their wisdom in this way.—*New Haven Palladium*.

A HAPPY RESTORATION.

I can truly say that I owe my present existence and happy restoration to the hopes and joys of life, to the use of Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver cure, and I say to every one suffering from any manner of kidney, liver or urinary trouble, "Use this remedy and recover."

Holly, N. Y., Feb. 26, 1880. W. E. SANFORD.

HOUGHTON & DUTTON,
55 Tremont, 5 Beacon, 24 and 25 Pemberton Square,
OFFER EXTRA INDUCEMENTS
—IN—
Handkerchiefs
—IN—
SILK, in LINEN and in MUSLIN. We have a large Stock in these
HANDKERCHIEFS!
We must move them this month. Hence we have taken off the prices a discount of 20 per cent. They are now very cheap. Ladies please examine our
HANDKERCHIEFS!
—AT—
55 Tremont Street.
HOUGHTON & DUTTON.
dec18-1t

Protect Your Trees.

Now is the season to protect the Trees of all kinds; as by immediately protecting the Trees a whole year's growth and a year's time is saved. Do not neglect this caution.
THE COOK TREE PROTECTOR CO.,
d18-1t 6 Central St., Boston.

GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.
BAKER'S
CHOCOLATE,

The standard for a Century. This Chocolate is made from the choicest Cocoa, carefully selected and prepared. It is the best preparation of plain Chocolate in the market for family use.
Sold by Grocers everywhere.
W. BAKER & CO.,
Dorchester, Mass.
dec18-1t

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SOLD AT
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
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Higganum Manufacturing Corporation, 38 South Market Street.

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C. DANA & CO., (Wholesale,) 82 N. Market St.

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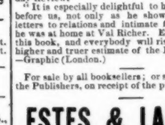
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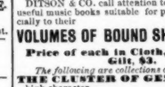
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We also offer tax free Land certificates of 640 acres each, issued to us by the State for services rendered, to be located at pleasure of the holder anywhere on the public Land; actual Settlement not required. It is payment in full, at face value wherever located for 640 acres. Price $320, half cash, half in five years. Will exchange for agricultural Implements or Merchandise, or sell on monthly payments.
☞ Tickets to our monthly Land and Lot Distribution $1 each, 6 for $5 or 13 for $10, monthly 1000 Tickets. **Invest for your Children—or prepare for a rainy Day.** Address (with stamp) E. B. STOKES, Secty "Home Exchange," Chenango, Brazoria Co., Texas.
Fare from New York to Houston, $30; from St. Louis, $14; for Immigrants here. Send Draft or Money by Express or in registered Letters. Money Orders must be made payable at Galveston, Texas. Cut this out. oc9-13t

GOING TO FLORIDA AGAIN.
THE writer having spent three Winters of Camp Life in Florida wilds, see Ploughman of last April 10th and 24th, May 8th and 22d, wishes to make up a party for 4th; will act as guides, feeling that he will be able to give them much more comfort and enjoyment at about one-half the expense it would cost to go alone. A party of four can go for $100 each. Address GEORGE H. RICE,
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WIN IT.
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RIGH

The Poet's Corner.

NEVER SAY DIE.

Never say die—never say die;
Life's worth the living, if only we try;
The hand and the brain
Were not given in vain,
We've a battle to gain,
And so—never say die.

Never say die—never say die;
If earnings be low and if living be high,
'Tis reason the more
Not to faint or give o'er,
Better days are in store,
And so—never say die.

Never say die—never say die—
When night is at darkest the morning is nigh;
Whether far off or near,
In God's time will appear
Some blessing to cheer,
And so never say die.

Never say die—never say die;
The soul that is steadfast may fortune defy;
In labor and art
Let the hand and the heart
Each do its own part,
And so—never say die.

Never say die—never say die;
When cowards despair, be this our reply:
All that's noble and human
In constant and true man,
In brave, patient woman,
Cries—Never say die.

Never say die—never say die;
Life is God's gift that we may not lay by;
Whatever befall,
'Tis the duty of all
Till He gives the call
To say—Never say die.

Ladies' Department.

A CHRISTMAS DINNER WITH THE MAN IN THE MOON.

BY MARION GLADDEN.

[St. Nicholas for December.]

"H'm!" growled Uncle Jack. "What will you do to me if I wont tell you a story?"

"Hang you on the Christmas-tree!" shouted Joe. "Kiss you a thousand times!" cried Sue.

"Hold! Enough!" exclaimed the besieged uncle. "I'll come right down. Look here! You haven't heard about that wonderful machine, lately invented by somebody, which shows you things that are going on hundreds of miles away?"

"Tell us about it," chants the full battalion.

"Well, I don't know much about *that*; but I have an instrument of my own that will do wonderful things. By looking into it, you cannot only see people that are far off, you can hear what they are saying and tell what they are thinking; and what is more, you can look back and see what is going to happen to them for hours and days to come."

"Oh, Uncle! Give us a look into it, wont you?"

"No; I can't do that. But, if you like, I'll take a look into it myself, and report what I see."

Presently, Uncle Jack returned from his room, where all sorts of curious machines were stored,—microscopes, electrical batteries, and what not,—bringing with him a curious-looking instrument. It was composed of two shining cylinders of brass, mounted like small telescopes, and placed at such an angle to each other that the ends were near to one end of the other, and the other ends were wide apart. Between the adjacent ends was a prism of beautifully polished glass.

Uncle Jack placed this instrument on a stand in the bay window, and sat down before it.

"Now you must all retire and be seated," he said. "I do not believe that the machinery will work unless you keep perfectly still. You mustn't interrupt me with any questions. When I am through, I will try to explain anything that you do not understand."

"All right; go ahead!" The battalion was soon at parade rest, and Uncle Jack proceeded.

The first thing that comes into the field of vision is a railway-station, about one hundred and fifty miles from this city. A boy is just entering the rear door of the last car of the afternoon express, and quietly depositing himself and his little Russia bag on the short seat at the end of the car. He has just taken from his pocket a letter addressed to "Mark Howland." That is his name. His uncle Cyrus has invited Mark to spend Christmas with his cousins in New Liverpool, and he is now on his way to that metropolis.

There is nothing to fear on account of the strangeness of the place to which he is going, for his cousins Arthur and Clarence will meet him at the station; and there is no reason to doubt the heartiness of his welcome, for his uncle's family are not at all "stuck up," if they do live in a fine house; and his father and mother are not only willing, but glad to have him go, and the happy light of expectancy shines out of his eyes.

It has been a busy day with Mark. He was up at four in the morning to go over the paper-route with Horace Mills, who is to carry the morning papers for him during his three days' absence; then there were many little preparations to make about the house, for Mark did his full share of the pleasuring at the expense of extra work for his father and mother, whose daily burdens are heavy enough; and therefore, as far as he can, he has anticipated the work of the three coming days. This filled the forenoon. After dinner, there were a few last errands for his mother, and then there was only time to pack his bag and don his Sunday suit, and hurry to the station for the four o'clock express.

The evening is cloudy and it is soon dark, and there is little to see from the windows of the car. Mark amuses himself for a while in watching the passengers; but they happen to be an unusually dull and torpid company, and there is not much entertainment in that occupation. At length, he makes himself comfortable in his corner of the car, rests his head against the window-frame, and gives himself up to imagining the delights of the coming day. Presently the speed of the train slackens, and the brakeman cries: "Lunenburg; ten minutes for refreshments; change cars for the Aerial Line!"

While Mark is observing the departure of the passengers who get down at this station, and wondering what the "Aerial Line" may be, he is surprised to see his uncle Cyrus entering the front door of the car.

"Oh, here you are, Mark!" he exclaims, as he espies him. "Glad to see you, my boy. How you grow! But come, bring your bag. We have changed our plans since morning. I have had an invitation to spend Christmas with Sir Marmaduke Monshan, and I am to bring my boys along. You are one of my boys for the time being, so here you go. Arthur and Clarence are waiting outside. I have telegraphed to your father, and he knows all about it. Come on."

Mark picks up his bag and follows his uncle, half-dazed by the suddenness of this change of plans.

Arthur and Clarence greet him in high glee.

"Isn't this a gay old adventure?" cries Arthur. "You didn't expect anything like this; did you?"

"N-no," answers Mark, rather demurely. He is not yet sure that he is glad to be cheated out of his visit to New Liverpool. And then he asks:

"But who is Sir Marmaduke Monshan?"

"Don't you know?" cry both the boys. "Why, he's the one they call The Man in the Moon. When he was down here the last time, he stopped over Sunday with us. Papa's one of the aldermen, you know, and Sir Marmaduke was the guest of the city; so papa saw him and asked him to our house. He's just the jolliest little old chap. He told us ever so much about his home, and made us promise that we would visit him sometime. This morning we got a telegram from him, and started this afternoon on short notice."

Now it begins to come to Mark that he has read in the papers of the establishment of an aerial line to the moon, the result of one of Edison's wonderful inventions.

The night is dark and chilly; but at the farther end of the station a great electric light is blazing, and thither the four travelers make their way. A long flight of steps leads up to an elevated platform, alongside of which, resting upon trestle-work, stands the great aerial car. It looks a little like one of the Winans cigar-steamers; its length is perhaps one hundred and fifty feet, and its shape is that of a cylinder, pointed at both ends. Just forward of the middle of the car are two enormous paddle-wheels, one on each side, not covered in like the paddles of a North River steam-boat, but in full view.

"How soon does it start?" Mark asks his uncle.

"In five minutes; there is the captain now."

A man in a bright red uniform is coming out of the station, with a lantern in his hand. Following him is a company of thirty or forty little people, whose singular appearance strikes Mark almost dumb with astonishment.

"What queer creatures are those?" he whispers.

"Those are the moon-folk," answers his uncle. "You have never seen any of them, have you? They are getting to be so common in the streets of New Liverpool that we hardly notice them."

"But what are those things around their head?"

"Those are the air-protectors. You know the atmosphere of the moon is very thin; some of the astronomers used to say that there wasn't any, but there is; only it is so extremely rare that we were not able to discover it. The lungs of the moon-folk are, of course, adapted to that thin atmosphere, and could not breathe in ours any more than we could breathe water. So when they come down to earth they wear these globes, which are hermetically sealed around their necks, and are very strong, to protect them from our air."

"Are these globes made of glass?" asks Marks.

"Yes, they are: the new kind of glass that is annealed so that it is flexible and tough as iron."

As the curious little folk go trotting by on their way to the car, one of them recognizes Mr. Howland, and gives a queer little jerk of the head.

"That," says Clarence, "is Sir Marmaduke's steward. He was at our house with his master."

Now the little man halts an I holds out to Mr. Howland a tiny telephone and transmitter. Mark notes that they communicate with a mouth-piece inside the globe which protects the moon-man's head.

"That's the way they have to talk," said Arthur. "There isn't any air to speak of inside that glass, and so there can't be any sound. But he manages it with this little telephone. He hears with his teeth,—that's the new way of hearing,—then he speaks into his transmitter, and we can hear him."

"What was he saying?" asks Arthur, as the little man hurries on.

"Only that Sir Marmaduke is expecting us, and that he will see us at the other end of the line," replies his father.

"All aboard!" shouts the captain. "Earth-folk forward; moon-folk abaft the wheel!"

Mark observes that two gang-planks run out to "The Meteor," so that is the name of the aerial car,—and that the little people are passing in over one of them, and the earth-born passengers over the other. They all are soon inside a handsome little saloon, elliptical in shape, furnished with stuffed lounges and easy-chairs, and a centre-table with a few books and papers, lighted by small windows of thick plate-glass, and warmed by electric radiators. The sliding door is shut by the guard and firmly fastened, a few strokes of a musical bell are heard, a tremulous flutter passes through the frame of "The Meteor," and the great paddle-wheels begin to revolve. Mark observes that the separate paddles of each wheel are constructed so that, as each one begins the downward and backward stroke, it spreads out like a fan, and then shuts up as it begins to rise from its lowest position, so as to offer but little resistance to the air.

The huge ship rises slowly from its timber moorings; the paddle-wheels begin to revolve with great rapidity; the lights of the village below drop down and down like falling stars; for a moment, a thick mist outside hides everything from view—"The Meteor" is passing through the clouds; in another moment, the stars above blaze out with wonderful brilliancy, the clouds are lying beneath,—a silvery sea, lit by the rising moon,—and the lights of the under world have all disappeared.

"How high up are we now?" Clarence asks.

His father turns to a barometer on the wall, with a table of altitudes hanging beside it, and answers: "About six miles. Judge from this table. We are not yet fully under headway. But my ears begin to ring, and I guess we had better be getting on our respirators."

Following Mr. Howland, the boys all go over to the forward part of the saloon, where a gentlemanly steward is assisting the passengers to adjust these curious contrivances.

An elderly gentleman, who had just secured his outfit, is returning to his seat.

Mark notices that he wears over his nose a neatly fitting rubber cap, from the bottom of which a tube extends to the inside pocket of his coat.

"You see," explains his uncle, "we are getting up now where the atmosphere is very thin, and presently there will be next to none at all. These respirators are made for the supply of air to the earth-folk on their journey through space and during their stay at the moon. Edison's wonderful air-condenser is the invention that makes this possible. By this invention, twenty-five thousand cubic feet of air are condensed into a solid block, about three times as large as a good-sized pocket-book, that will keep without surifying in any climate. There! He is slipping one of the bricks of condensed air into that pouch just now, and handing it to that gentleman. You see that it looks a good deal like a piece of Parian marble. The tube connects the pouch containing the condensed air with the respirator on the end of the nose, and the moisture of the breath produces a gentle and gradual serification, as they call it, or change of the brick into good air."

"How long will one of these chunks of condensed air last?" Mark asks.

"About twenty-four hours. They can last longer; but they are generally renewed every day."

"I should think, then," Mark answers "that earth-folk, while they are in the moon would feel like saying in their prayers 'Give us this day our daily breath,' as well as 'our daily bread.'"

"Perhaps," rejoined his uncle, reverently, "they might fitly offer that prayer while they are on the earth, too, as well as anywhere else."

"How fast are we going now?" Arthur inquires.

"Possibly sixty miles an hour," says his father.

"Sixty miles an hour!" answers Mark. "Why, that's—let me see: six fours are twenty-four, six twos are twelve, and two are fourteen. That's only fourteen hundred and forty miles a day, and we have two hundred and thirty thousand miles to travel.

"Whew!" cries Arthur. "It will take us more than a hundred days—almost two hundred—to get there at this rate."

"You don't understand," Mr. Howland explains. "We can only go by means of these paddles through our atmosphere."

"And that," breaks in Arthur, "is only forty-five miles."

"It is more than that. The later conjectures of the best astronomers, that the atmosphere extends about two hundred miles from the surface of the earth, have been verified. But just as soon as we reach the outermost limits of this atmospheric envelope of the earth, we strike the great electric currents that flow between the earth and the moon. These currents, at this time of the day, flow toward the moon. They go with immense velocity,—probably twenty thousand miles an hour. This car is covered, as you saw, with soft iron, and, by the electric engines which drive the machinery, it is converted into an immense electro-magnet, on which these currents lay hold, sweeping the car right along with them. There is no air to resist the motion, you know, and you are not conscious of motion any more than you are when drifting with the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic."

"We'll get there, then," Mark figures, "in about twelve hours from the time we started."

"Yes; if nothing happens we shall land about eight o'clock to-morrow morning. And now, as there is very little that you can see, as we shall have a fatiguing day to-morrow, and ought to start fresh, I propose that all lie down upon these comfortable couches and try and get a comfortable night's rest."

The boys do not quite relish the suggestion, but they adopt it, nevertheless, and are soon sleeping soundly. An hour or two later, Mark awakens, and, lifting himself on his elbow, looks out of the forward windows. The moon is shining in, and such a moon! Talk about dinner-plates or cart-wheels! The great bright shield of this moon fills a vast circle of the heavens. It is twenty times bigger than any moon he ever saw. He takes a quarter dollar from his pocket and holds it before his eye at a distance of about two inches, and the coin does not hide the planet; a bright silver rim is visible all around it. The dark spots on the moon's surface are now clearly seen to be deep valleys and gorges; the mountain ranges come out in clear relief. Mark is at first inclined to wake his cousins; but he concludes to wait an hour or two till the view shall be a little finer; and before he knows it he is fast asleep again.

He is swakened by a general stir in the saloon. The captain is crying, "All ashore!" the passengers are gathering their hand-luggage, and preparing to disembark. How in the world, or rather, how in the moon, this landing was ever effected, Mark does not understand. But there is no time now to ask questions, and he picks up his bag and follows his uncle and his cousins. The gang plank leads out to an elevated platform, crowned with a neat little building, from the cupola of which a purple and white flag, shaped and colored somewhat like a pansy, is floating in the faint breeze. In a neat little park surrounding the station an orderly crowd of the moon-folk are waiting.

It is the brightest colored company that Mark has ever seen. The park fairly glitters and dances with brilliant hues. The little ponies themselves have coats as bright as the plumage of the birds on the earth, and the costumes of the people are all as gay as color can make them.

"See!" exclaims Clarence; "what do they mean? They are all waving flags, and they seem to be shouting, but they do not make any noise."

"No noise that we can hear," replied Mr. Howland. "The atmosphere is so rare that it does not convey the sound to our ears. Perhaps when we draw nearer we shall hear a little of it."

"But what are they shouting for?" asks Arthur.

"They are greeting us," replies his father. "These are Sir Marmaduke's people—his constituents perhaps I ought to call them; and they have come at his summons to give us a welcome."

A handsome young officer now appears on the platform, and touching his hat to the travellers, beckons them to follow him. They all descend the platform and go to the small square in front of the park, where the carriages are waiting. Here Sir Marmaduke comes forward to greet them, lifting his chapeau, and extending his hand in a very cordial fashion.

He is a very pleasant-faced little man, with gray hair; he is dressed in a purple uniform with white facings, and he carries at his side an elegant little sword. He puts his fingers in his ears and points with a smiling face toward the multitude in the park, who are waving their flags and their caps, (and seem to be shouting still uproariously), as if to say: "They are making so much noise that it is of no use for me to try to talk."

The boys can hardly refrain from laughing at this dumb show; but a faint murmur comes to their ears, like the shouting of a multitude miles away, and they realize that it is not really pantomime, though it looks so very like it.

They are led by Sir Marmaduke to the chariot in waiting. The body of this conveyance is scarlet, the wheels are gilt, and the cushions are sky-blue; it is drawn by sixteen ponies, four abreast, each team of which is driven by a postillion. The chariot which is driven by a postillion. The chariot is about as large as an ordinary barouche, with seats for four; but it towers high above all the carriages of the moon-folks.

A faint popping comes to their ears, which seems to be a salute from a battery of electrical cannon in the upper corner of the park; in the midst of the salute, the procession moves off. A band, dressed in scarlet and gold, and playing on silver instruments,